IN THE CLAIMS

1-13. (canceled)

14. (currently amended) An apparatus for manipulating an orthopedic device, the apparatus comprising:

a shaft having a longitudinal axis and a distal end having an extension, the extension including a confronting surface substantially perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the shaft;

an extendible and retractable holding pin located partially internal the shaft along the longitudinal axis, the pin including a distal end that is bent downwardly; and

a spring coupled to the holding pin and located internal to at least a portion of the shaft, the spring configured to bias the distal end of the pin into the shaft; and

a flange mechanically coupled to the holding pin, wherein exerting pressure on the flange in a distal direction overcomes the spring-load of the spring to space the holding pin at a distance from the extension;

wherein the distal end of the holding pin is prevented from being entirely retracted within the shaft under the bias of the spring as the distal end of the holding pin abuts the confronting surface of the distal end of the shaft; and

wherein a lower surface of the extension prevents the holding pin from upward movement with respect to the shaft distal end.

15. (original) The apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the device comprises a first baseplate and a second baseplate, and wherein the holding pin engages and disengages a corresponding holding pin baseplate hole of the first baseplate.

16. (original) The apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the holding pin extends through the extension in a longitudinal direction relative to the shaft.

17. (canceled)

18. (canceled)

19. (currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 1~~8~~4, the apparatus further comprising a knob coupled to the shaft, wherein rotation of the knob moves the flange such that the holding pin moves closer to the shaft distal end, and wherein reverse rotation of the knob moves the flange such that the holding pin moves away from the shaft distal end.

20. (original) The apparatus according to claim 19, wherein the knob is threaded to the shaft, and interference between threads of the knob and threads of the shaft lock the holding pin in position.